AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Detailed Listing of All Claims 1-29:

1. (currently amended) A variable position catalyst assembly, comprising:

a connector element (39) that comprises an opening in an exhaust gas passage portion (34) disposed between an inlet (45) and an outlet (36), the opening shaped to accommodate a catalyst body (1) held by a cradle (5) and the portion (34) shaped to accommodate the catalyst body (1) held by the cradle (5) in an active catalyst position (35) and the inlet (45) and the outlet (36) shaped to connect to exhaust gas piping wherein cross-sectional shape of the exhaust gas passage portion (34) differs from cross-sectional shape of the inlet (45) and cross-sectional shape of the outlet (36);

a catalyst housing (7) configured to mount to the connector element (39) and to accommodat[[ing]]e, in an inactive catalyst position (14), [[a]]the catalyst body (1) held by the cradle (5); and

an actuator member (9) that comprises a mounting element (13) for mounting of the cradle (5) and for moving the catalyst body (1) held by the cradle (5) with respect to the catalyst housing (7) such that the catalyst body (1) can be moved to [[an]]the active catalyst position (35) or to [[an]]the inactive catalyst position (14),

~~characterized in that~~

wherein ~~said catalyst body (1) is held by a~~the cradle (5) ~~having a~~ comprises plates (2, 3) and posts (4) connecting the plates (2, 3)[[,]] and wherein, in the inactive catalyst position (14), one of the plates (2) covers the opening in the exhaust gas passage portion (34) of the connector element (39)~~said active catalyst position (35) is provided in an exhaust passage the inner wall of which is in alignment with the plate (2, 3) when the catalyst body (1) is moved in its inactive catalyst position~~.

2. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the plates (2, 3) [[is]]are disc-shaped.

3. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the active catalyst position (35) is exposed to an exhaust gas stream of an engine.

4. (currently amended). The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein at least the inactive catalyst position (14) is provided within the catalyst housing (7).

5. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the cradle (5) is connected to the actuator member (9) by an actuator rod (10).

6. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 5, wherein the catalyst housing (7) has a cylindrical inner shape and the cradle (5) has a cylindrical outer shape, the inner diameter of the catalyst housing (7) fitting to the outer diameter of the cradle (5).

7. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the cradle (5) comprises two disc-shaped plates (2, 3) between which the catalyst body (1) is held.

8. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the actuator member (2) is a pneumatic device.

9. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the actuator member (9) is an electric device.

10. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 5, wherein the actuator rod (10) moves the catalyst body (1) to the active catalyst position (35) when the actuator member (9) is actuated, and moves the catalyst body (1) to the inactive catalyst position (7) when the actuator (9) is released.

11. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the catalyst body (1), the catalyst housing (7) and the actuator member (9) comprise one common axis along which the catalyst body (1) is movable.

12. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 11, wherein the actuator member (9) is located outside the catalyst housing (7), and the actuator rod (10) penetrates the catalyst housing (7) along the common axis.

13. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 5, wherein the cradle (5) comprises a leading edge (13a) which is always in contact with a portion of the catalyst housing (7) providing the inactive position (14).

14. (currently amended) The variable position catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the variable position catalyst is provided upstream of a turbocharger of an engine.

15. (currently amended) An internal combustion engine, wherein an exhaust gas of the engine is passed through an exhaust gas passage, the combustion engine further comprising a variable position catalyst assembly having:

a connector element (39) that comprises an opening in an exhaust gas passage portion (34) disposed between an inlet (45) and an outlet (36), the opening shaped to accommodate a catalyst body (1) held by a cradle (5) and the portion (34) shaped to accommodate the catalyst body (1) held by the cradle (5) in an active catalyst position (35) and the inlet (45) and the outlet (36) shaped to connect to exhaust gas piping of the exhaust gas passage wherein cross-sectional shape of the

exhaust gas passage portion (34) differs from cross-sectional shape of the inlet (45) and cross-sectional shape of the outlet (36);

a catalyst housing (7) configured to mount to the connector element (39) and to accommodat[[ing]]e, in an inactive catalyst position (14), [[a]]the catalyst body (1) held by the cradle (5); and

an actuator member (9) that comprises a mounting element (13) for mounting of the cradle (5) and for moving the catalyst body (1) held by the cradle (5) with respect to the catalyst housing (7) such that the catalyst body (1) can be moved to [[an]]the active catalyst position (35) or to [[an]]the inactive catalyst position (14),

~~characterized in that~~

wherein ~~said catalyst body (1) is held by a~~the cradle (5) ~~having a~~ comprises plates (2, 3) and posts (4) connecting the plates (2, 3)[[,]] and wherein, in the inactive catalyst position (14), one of the plates (2) covers the opening in the exhaust gas passage portion (34) of the connector element (39)~~said active catalyst position (35) is provided in an exhaust passage the inner wall of which is in alignment with the plate (2, 3) when the catalyst body (1) is moved in its inactive catalyst position~~.

16. (currently amended) The internal combustion engine according to claim 15, wherein the plates (2, 3) [[is]]are disc-shaped.

17. (currently amended) The internal combustion engine according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the active catalyst position (35) is exposed to an exhaust gas stream of the engine.

18. (currently amended) The internal combustion engine according to claim 15, wherein at least the inactive catalyst position (14) is provided within the catalyst housing (7).

19. (currently amended) The internal combustion engine according to claim 15, wherein the catalyst body (1) is held by [[a]]the cradle (5), the cradle (5) connected to the actuator member (9) by the mounting element (13) and an actuator rod (10).

20. (original) The internal combustion engine according to claim 19, wherein the catalyst housing (7) has a cylindrical inner shape and the cradle (5) has a cylindrical outer shape, the inner diameter of the housing fitting to the outer diameter of the cradle (5).

21. (currently amended) The internal combustion engine according to claim 19 or 20, wherein the cradle (5) comprises two disc-shaped plates (1, 2) between which the catalyst body (1) is held.

22. (original) The internal combustion engine according to claim 15, wherein the actuator member (9) is a pneumatic device.

23. (original) The internal combustion engine according to claim 15, wherein the actuator member (9) is an electric device.

24. (currently amended) The internal combustion engine according to claim 23, wherein the actuator rod (10) moves the catalyst body (1) to the active catalyst position (35) when the actuator member (9) is actuated, and moves the catalyst body (1) to the inactive catalyst position (14) when the actuator (9) is released.

25. (previously presented) The internal combustion engine according to claim 15, wherein the catalyst body (1), the catalyst housing (7) and the actuator member (9) comprise one common axis along which the catalyst body (1) is movable.

26. (original) The internal combustion engine according to claim 25, wherein the actuator member (9) is located outside the catalyst housing (7), and the actuator rod (10) penetrates the catalyst housing (7) along the common axis.

27. (previously presented) The internal combustion engine according to claim 19, wherein the cradle (5) comprises a leading edge (13a) which is always in contact with a portion of the catalyst housing (7) providing the inactive position (35).

28. (original) The combustion engine according to claim 27, wherein a part of the catalyst housing (7) constitutes a part of the exhaust gas passage.

29. (currently amended) The combustion engine according to claim 15, further comprising a turbocharger for compressing the air to be supplied to the combustion engine, wherein the variable position catalyst assembly is disposed upstream of the turbocharger.